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Preface to Selected Papers of the Eurolinguistics Conference 2019 at Volkshochschule Donauwörth

In 2017, Volkshochschule Donauwörth (Vhs Donauwörth) had hosted a well-received Eurolinguistics conference. Therefore, the institute's president, **Paul Soldner**, and its director, **Gudrun Reißer**, asked me as head of the institute's project unit "Innovative Europäische Sprachlehre (InES)" 'Innovative European Language Teaching', to carry out another Eurolinguistics Conference—again with a section for the general public.

The InES project displays two branches:

- (1) The first branch encompasses the developing, testing and offering of more efficient ways toward foreign language competence: The models we keep promoting are Basic Global English (BGE), Advanced Global English, the Language Workout method in the form of *SprachFitnessStudios* 'language gyms' on European languages for homogeneous learner groups (from Europe), the model *Sprach-Not-Arzt* 'Language Emergency Doctor' for heterogeneous learner groups from all over the world so that they can quickly acquire knowledge in a European language (here, German), the model *Alphabet-Not-Arzt* 'Alphabet Emergency Doctor' for those learners of German who are not familiar with the Latin alphabet yet; moreover, we carry out experiments on new ways of language training on the intermediate level, including cultural-communicative competence, vocabulary-learning strategies and the overcoming of fossilized errors in pronunciation (cf. Grzega 2018a, including empirical analyses).
- (2) The second branch comprehends the developing, testing and offering of more efficient ways toward native language competence, especially regarding a better understanding of the interconnection between language, thought, and action: since the inception of InES in 2016, we have developed a considerable number of "edutaining", mostly audience-activating, formats for the interconnection of language, thought, action in the fields of peace, democracy, ecology, economy, health, to name but a few (cf. Grzega 2018b, including an empirical analysis).

Apart from on-site offers in Donauwörth and other areas of Germany, we use brief YouTube clips (they can be found by inserting "Innovative Europäische Sprachlehre" into the search line or looking for entries under my user name "Joachim Grzega") and books (e.g. a quiz book in a German and English version [Grzega 2017a and 2017b]).

All formats created in the InES project are Eurolinguistic *stricto sensu*: This means that all concepts respect all large sub-zones of Europe, no matter whether a political, geographical or cultural definition is set for a certain topic (cf. the definitory discussion in Grzega 2012 and 2013). It is in this spirit that we perceive Eurolinguistics as a discipline of its own—a discipline that supports people in realizing the true core of Europe and understanding differences within Europe, thus working toward more empathy within Europe and beyond.

As part of the InES project, the second international Eurolinguistics conference at Vhs Donauwörth took place from 5 to 7 April October 2019. Again, the idea was that contributions should be relevant to all large geo-cultural zones of Europe. Aside from the academic contributions, the international

audience was entertained with (a) the musical version of poems that do not have to be translated because they consist of words, phrases and word-elements known all over Europe, and (b) a seminar on Europe's common history of music, including its reflection in words and phrases.

As the InES project strives for more mutual understanding of a general public and expert linguists, this conference (like my previous Eurolinguistics conferences) included a section in which all guest speakers briefly summarized their results from academic research in a style which was also intelligible to laypeople and which attracted some among the audience to ask interesting questions. This section received positive feedback by both laypeople and researchers. Our thanks go to all conference participants who engaged in this attempt to make academic research attractive for non-experts.

In the organization of the conference, I was assisted by Vhs Director Gudrun Reißer and Dr. Natalia Boos, whom I would like to thank for this. Financial support for the conference came from the city of Donauwörth (represented by Donauwörth's Lord Mayor Armin Neudert), Sparkasse Donauwörth, and Raiffeisen-Volksbank Donauwörth; Volkshochschule Donauwörth was very grateful for this aid.

People who participated in the conference were from all areas of Europe: the west (Germany, Austria), the south (Spain, Italy), the east (Hungary, Poland) and the north (Britain). The frame topic of the conference was "Linguistic Aspects of the Past, Present and Future of Europe" and invited also interdisciplinary research. This is reflected in the selection of papers published in this volume:

- Prof. Dr. **Rosa Maria Calafat Vila** (University of Palma): "The Linguistic Ideology of Eighteenth-Century Europe—A Precursor of Today, for Catalan and Other Languages"
- Dr. **Bea Klüsener** (VHS Wuppertal and University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt): "Von Revolutionen, Rebellen und Monstern: Mary Shelleys *Frankenstein* zwischen europäischem Schauerroman und politischem Text" ['Of revolutions, rebels and monsters: Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* between European gothic novel and political text']
- Prof. Dr. **Joachim Grzega** (VHS Donauwörth and University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt): "Names, Nations and Nature from a Eurolinguistic View: Notes on Peace-Threatening and Peace-Promoting Language"
- Prof. Dr. **Wolfgang Pöckl** (University of Innsbruck): "Zum Umgang mit europäischen Eigennamen in österreichischen Medien" ['On the treatment of European proper names in Austrian media']
- Assoc.Prof. Dr. **Andrea Reményi** (University of Budapest): "Long-Term Mobility for Public Education Teachers in the European Union: Policy Steps, Research Results"

Apart from the papers published here, there were additional presentations at the conference: Prof. Dr. **Magdalena Szulc** (University of Lublin) spoke on the concept of patriotism in European print media ("Das Konzept 'Patriotismus' in europäischen Printmedien"), Assoc.Prof. Dr. **Laura Ferrarotti** (University of Rome-La Sapienza) on "University Websites in a Comparative Perspective", and Mag. **Martina Mayer** (University of Innsbruck) on methods of teaching translation ("Übersetzen ist nicht schwer"? Grenzziehungen auf dem Weg zu einer adäquaten Translationsdidaktik"). Finally, Dr. **Michael Lynch** (University of Edinburgh) presented "Evidence for the Bilingual Option in Foreign Language Teaching"—he elaborated on aspects that he had published, together with Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Butzkamm (University of Aachen), in last year's volume.

Since participants in the final round at the conference claimed that Eurolinguistics should find broader and more intense academic support, I have again added the 2015 Memorandum on Establishing Eurolinguistics as a University Field.

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